

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

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USCINCEUR

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0248

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: DRAFT GUIDANCE FOR AD HOC GROUP

ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER DATA

REF: USNATO 5110

1. OBJECTIONS RAISED BY NETHERLANDS, FRG AND BELGIAN
SPC REPS REPORTED PARA 1 OF REFTTEL INDICATE TO US THAT
THESE REPS APPARENTLY MISS THE POINT OF THE AD HOC GROUP
PROPOSAL THAT ALLIED NEGOTIATORS IN VIENNA BE AUTHORIZED,
IF TACTICAL CIRCUMSTANCES MAKE THIS APPEAR ADVISABLE, TO
GIVE THE EAST ALLIED TOTALS FOR NATO AND PACT AIR
FORCE MANPOWER, AND THAT DISCUSSION IN THE SPC MAY HAVE
DRIFTED AWAY FROM THE PURPOSE THE AD HOC GROUP HAD IN
MIND IN MAKING THIS PROPOSAL. AS SET FORTH IN PARA 8

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OF PART II OF THE AD HOC GROUP REPORT OF JULY 23 TO

THE NAC (TEXT IN MBFR VIENNA 0199 -- FURTHER DETAIL IS IN PARAS 13 AND 15 OF MBFR VIENNA 0211 AND PARA 10 FO MBFR VIENNA 0212), THE PURPOSE OF ALLIED NEGOTIATORS BEING IN A POSITION TO TELL THE EAST THAT AIR FORCE MANPOWER TOTALS ON BOTH SIDES ARE ROUGHLY EQUAL IN THE CONTEXT OF DISCUSSION OF DEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES IS TO USE THIS ARGUMENT IN ORDER TO KEEP DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON GROUND FORCES.

2. IN ITS SUGGESTION TO NAC, THE AD HOC GROUP WANTED TO GO BEYOND AN ADJECTIVAL DESCRIPTION THAT THE TOTAL OF AIR FORCE MANPOWER ON BOTH SIDES WAS ROUGHLY EQUAL TO GIVE THE EAST THE ALLIED NUMERICAL TOTALS ON THIS SUBJECT IN ORDER TO MAKE THE POINT ON EQUALITY OF AIR FORCES CONCLUSIVELY. THERE HAS PERHAPS BEEN SOME MISPERCEPTION OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS ACTION. THE ORIGINAL ALLIED ACTION OF GIVING THE EAST ALLIED TOTALS ON GROUND FORCE MANPOWER OF BOTH SIDES WAS NOT A UNILATERAL FAVOR TO THE EAST, BUT A NECESSARY REPEAT NECESSARY DEMONSTRATION OF THE CENTRAL POINT IN THE ENTIRE ALLIED POSITION: THE EXISTENCE OF LARGE-SCALE DISPARITY BETWEEN PACT AND ALLIED GROUND FORCES.

3. THE PURPOSE OF GIVING ALLIED TOTALS ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER IS EXACTLY THE SAME. IT IS TO DEMONSTRATE CONCLUSIVELY THAT THE BIG DISPARITY IS IN GROUND FORCES IT IS IN THE ALLIED INTEREST OF DRIVING HOME THE ALLIED CASE TO MAKE THIS POINT WITH REGARD TO AIR FORCE TOTALS WITH OR WITHOUT RECIPROCITY FROM THE EAST.

4. THIS POINT HAS BECOME DISTORTED THROUGHOUT THE INCLUSION IN THE DRAFT GUIDANCE OF POINT (B), TELLING THE ALLIED NEGOTIATORS TO "REFRAIN FROM MAKING NUMERICAL SUBSTANTIVE STATEMENTS IN THE ABSENCE OF EASTERN AGREEMENT TO A RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE OF DATA ON GROUND FORCES." INCLUSION OF THE CONCEPT OF RECIPROCITY IN THE INSTRUCTION IN PLACE OF THE ORIGINAL AD HOC GROUP PROPOSAL TO GIVE THE EAST THE ACTUAL NUMBER HAS CONVERTED THE ISSUE FROM ONE OF MAKING A TELLING POINT IN SUPPORT OF THE WESTERN POSITION ON GROUND FORCE

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REDUCTIONS TO THE ISSUE OF EXCHANGING DATA AND THE ISSUE OF WHAT PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO EXCHANGING DATA BETWEEN GROUND AND AIR FORCE MANPOWER. IT IS THE INSISTENCE ON EXCHANGING THIS DATA WHICH RAISES THE POSSIBILITY, IN OUR VIEW PURELY THEORETICAL AT THIS STAGE, THAT DISCUSSION MIGHT BE DIVERTED AWAY FROM THE FOCUS ON GROUND FORCES AND GROUND FORCE DATA WHICH CONTINUES THE ALLIED OBJECTIVE.

5. WE CAN LIVE WITH EITHER OF THE PRESENT VERSIONS OF PARAGRAPH (B). BUT FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE TACTICAL USE WHICH THE AD HOC GROUP HAS IN MIND, IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WASHINGTON AGENCIES COULD AUTHORIZE USNATO TO SEEK AGREEMENT ON THE FOLLOWING TEXT FOR PARAGRAPH (B) OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE (TEXT IN USNATO 4956):

BEGIN TEXT: IN ORDER TO REINFORCE THEIR ARGUMENT, ALLIED NEGOTIATORS MAY GIVE ALLIED TOTALS FOR AIR FORCE MANPOWER OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT. THEY SHOULD AT THIS STAGE REFRAIN FROM BEING DRAWN INTO FURTHER DISCUSSION OF AIR MANPOWER DATA. SUCH DISCUSSION SHOULD ONLY TAKE PLACE IN THE CONTEXT OF PRIOR EASTERN AGREEMENT TO EXCHANGE BOTH GROUND AND AIR FORCE MANPOWER DATA ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS, AS ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD CONTINUE TO PROPOSE (SEE PARAGRAPHS 11 AND 13 OF AD HOC GROUP REPORT OF JULY 23). END TEXT. RESOR

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